

IN THE CLAIMS

The status of each claim of the present application is listed below.

Claims 1-35: Canceled.

36. (Previously Presented) A method of producing a cDNA encoding a human brain natriuretic peptide, comprising:

hybridizing a probe having a DNA sequence encoding a part of a porcine brain natriuretic peptide to a human cDNA library;

selecting a positive clone; and

isolating the cDNA of said positive clone,

wherein said probe is obtained by digesting a complete or incomplete cDNA clone encoding porcine brain natriuretic peptide with endonucleases XhoI and RsaI.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 36, wherein said probe is labeled.

Claims 38-61: Canceled.

62. (New) An isolated polypeptide having an amino acid sequence which consists of the following amino acids:

H-Gly Ser Gly Cys Phe Gly Arg Lys Met Asp Arg Ile Ser Ser

Ser Ser Gly Leu Gly Cys Lys Val Leu Arg Arg His-OH

which is in the form of an acid addition salt, wherein the acid is selected from the group consisting of sulfuric acid, formic acid, citric acid, fumaric acid and maleic acid.

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63. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 62, wherein the acid is selected from the group consisting of citric acid, fumaric acid and maleic acid.

64. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 63, wherein the acid is citric acid.

65. (New) An isolated polypeptide having an amino acid sequence which consists of the following amino acids:

H-Ser Pro Lys Met Val Gln Gly Ser Gly Cys Phe Gly Arg

Lys Met Asp Arg Ile Ser Ser Ser Ser Gly Leu Gly Cys Lys

Val Leu Arg Arg His-OH

which is in the form of an acid addition salt, wherein the acid is selected from the group consisting of sulfuric acid, formic acid, citric acid, fumaric acid and maleic acid.

66. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 65, wherein the acid is selected from the group consisting of citric acid, fumaric acid and maleic acid.

67. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 66, wherein the acid is citric acid.

68. (New) An isolated polypeptide having an amino acid sequence which consists of the following amino acids:

H-Gly Ser Gly Cys Phe Gly Arg Lys Met Asp Arg Ile Ser Ser

Ser Ser Gly Leu Gly Cys Lys Val Leu Arg Arg His-OH

which is in the form of an acid addition salt, wherein the acid is selected from the group consisting of sulfuric acid, formic acid, citric acid, fumaric acid and maleic acid.

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69. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 68, wherein the acid is selected from the group consisting of citric acid, fumaric acid and maleic acid.

70. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 69, wherein the acid is citric acid.

71. (New) An isolated polypeptide having an amino acid sequence which consists of the following amino acids:

H-Ser Pro Lys Met Val Gln Gly Ser Gly Cys Phe Gly Arg  
 Lys Met Asp Arg Ile Ser Ser Ser Ser Gly Leu Gly Cys Lys  
 Val Leu Arg Arg His-OH

which is in the form of an acid addition salt, wherein the acid is selected from the group consisting of sulfuric acid, formic acid, citric acid, fumaric acid and maleic acid.

72. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 71, wherein the acid is selected from the group consisting of citric acid, fumaric acid and maleic acid.

73. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 72, wherein the acid is citric acid.